Endless Possibilities For Navajo Students

NAVAJO TECHNICAL COLLEGE 2012

REPORT BY DR. ELMER J. GUY, PRESIDENT NAVAJO TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Aspen Institute Ranked Navajo Technical College one of the Top 120 Community Colleges in the United States for the second year in a Row

- Navajo Technical College was the only college in New Mexico to be ranked in the Top 120
- •For millions of Americans, community colleges provide an essential pathway to well-paying jobs and continuing higher education. The Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence honors those institutions that strive for and achieve exceptional levels of success for all students, while they are in college and after they graduate.

The College Has multiple learning centers

- The largest campus is in Crownpoint, NM
- The college runs three smaller instructional sites:
 - Chinle, Arizona
 - Teec Nos Pos, Arizona
 - Phoenix, Arizona
- The current total enrollment is 1,730 students
- Enrollment has increased over 350% over the last six years

Extraordinarily High Graduation and Retention Rates

Graduation rate:

80+%

Retention rate:

72.5%

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Enrollment is growing at

53% per year



Why is Navajo Tech so successful?

- The college is built around the idea that this generation of students are the solution to poverty on the Navajo Nation. There is no law that demands Navajo has to be poor.
- 2. The curriculum is built around the idea that even the most advanced concepts are best taught through research or other student experiences even at the associate degree level.
- 3. Navajo Tech believes in Navajo students and their future more than they believe in themselves, leading to high standards and demands for academic excellence, leading to outstanding student accomplishment.

Reasons for success continued...

Navajo Tech competes!

- SkillsUSA
- American Indian Higher Education Fall Conference
- High Performance Computing Challenge
- Chocolate Fantasy Championship
- National rocket championships sponsored by NASA
- Others



Reasons for success continued...

Navajo Tech believes students need to work with technologies, curriculum, knowledge, and science that is at the cutting edge, giving them an advantage in the marketplace for careers and employment





Dual Enrollment Programs where Navajo Tech works with high school students to reduce the amount of remedial education needed are key

But New Mexico's failure to fund the legislation giving the tribal colleges in the state the right to work in the dual enrollment system has never been appropriated, endangering this effort!

Internships, Externships...

- Poster Presentations
- Speeches at Conferences
- Attendance at Conferences
- Work with Private Industry
- Community Service Projects
- All of This Leads to Student Excitement and Success...



If you make students dirty, hot, cold, and generally miserable while they are learning to believe in themselves and their expertise...

Then success is guaranteed!